

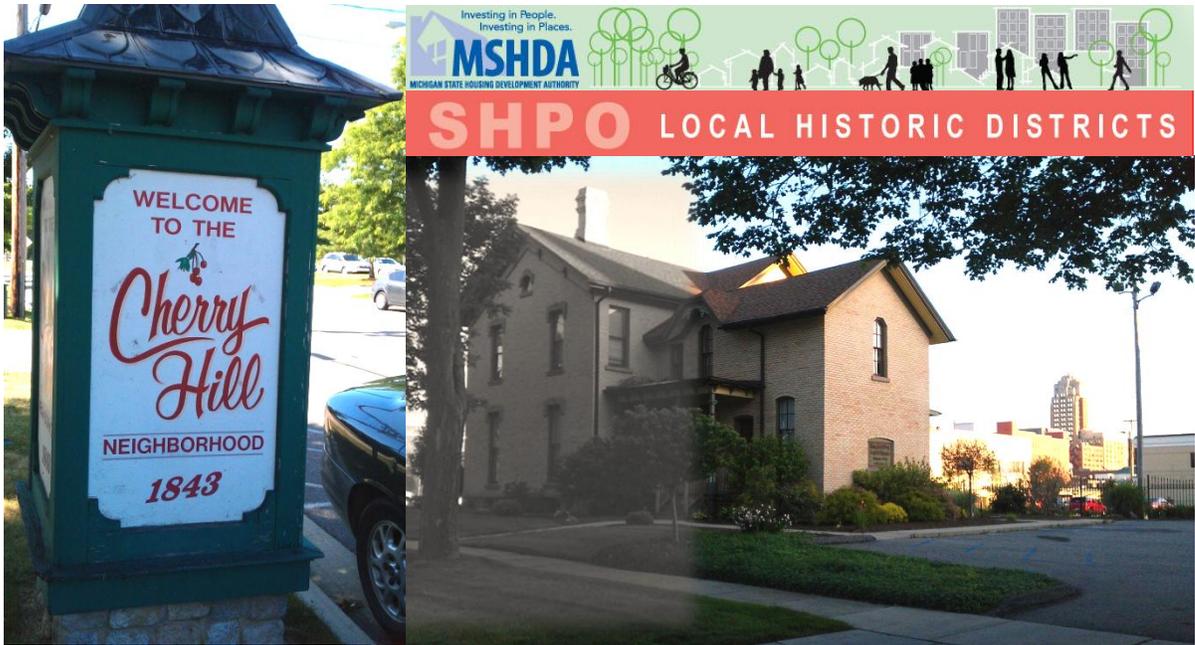


Virg Bernero, Mayor

Cherry Hill Neighborhood Historic District Walking Tour

City of Lansing

With Assistance from the Capital Area District Library



Centered at the intersection of Cherry and Hillsdale Streets, the Cherry Hill Neighborhood contains a large number of nineteenth century brick and clapboard Victorian style homes (mostly Italianate and Queen Anne styles). Some thirty homes in the area are more than 100 years old.

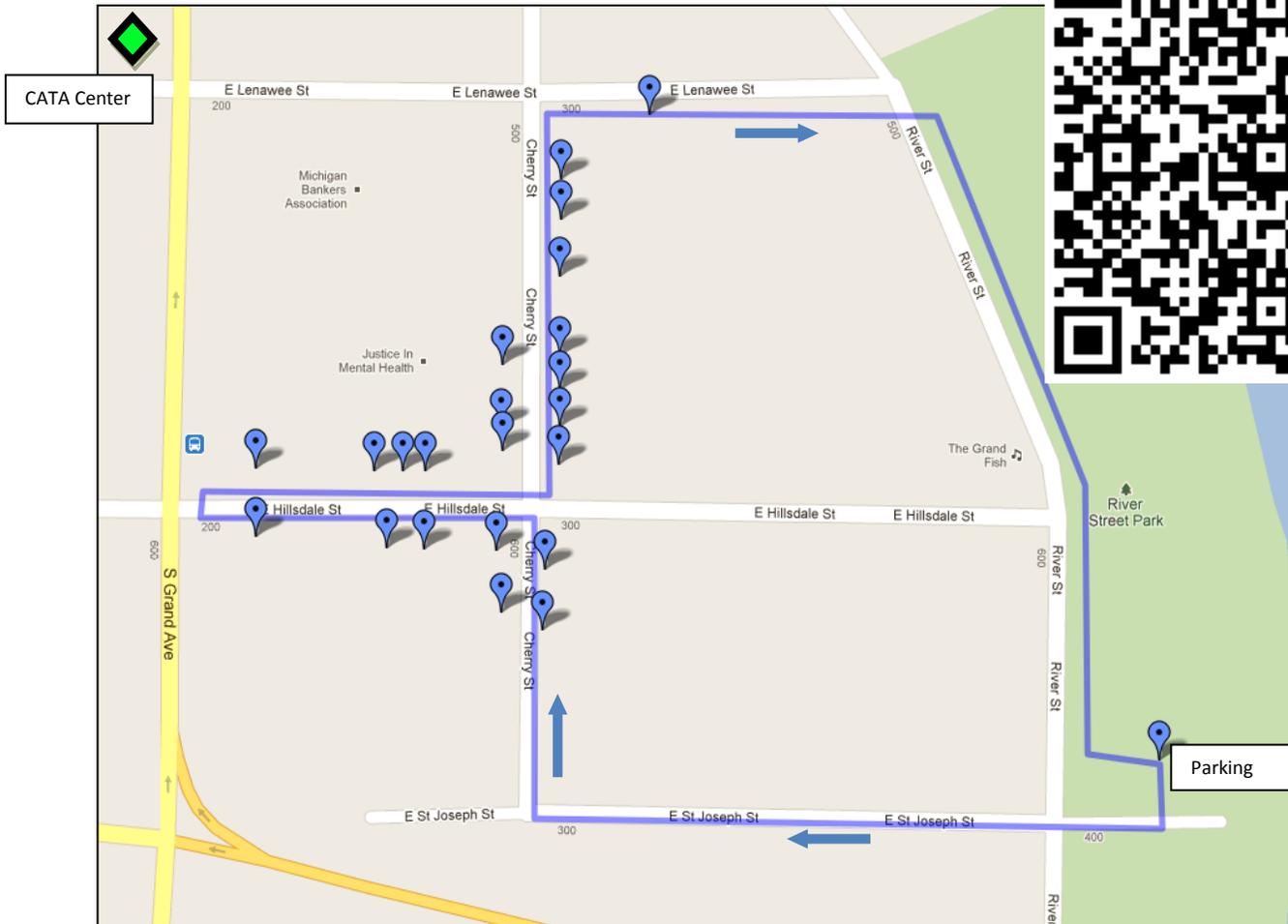
Cherry Hill was part of the city's original plat. It is the remaining portion of an impressive neighborhood which at one time extended south into the area where 1-496 now runs. At least twenty-one of the structures covered are considered significant by the Michigan Bureau of History. This architectural significance is augmented by the fact that many of Lansing's most notable turn-of-the-century business people occupied these structures.

This local history walking tour was created by the City of Lansing Planning Office and Lansing Historic Preservation Commission to serve as an update to the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report published in 1989. Historic images were obtained courtesy of the Capital Area District Library Special Collections.

This is an active neighborhood with residents devoted to the continued historic preservation of their properties, recognizing their cultural importance to the City of Lansing and the State of Michigan. Please respect the privacy of the people who call it home.

Map

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=211774610083829086163.0004c1a8bd86935ffdf31&msa=0>



Directions:

From Downtown Lansing: From Michigan Ave, head South on Washington Square South. After 0.3 miles, take a left onto East Lenawee St. Go three blocks, and take a right onto River Street. Take the first left onto E. St. Joseph Street for the Cherry Hill Park parking lot.

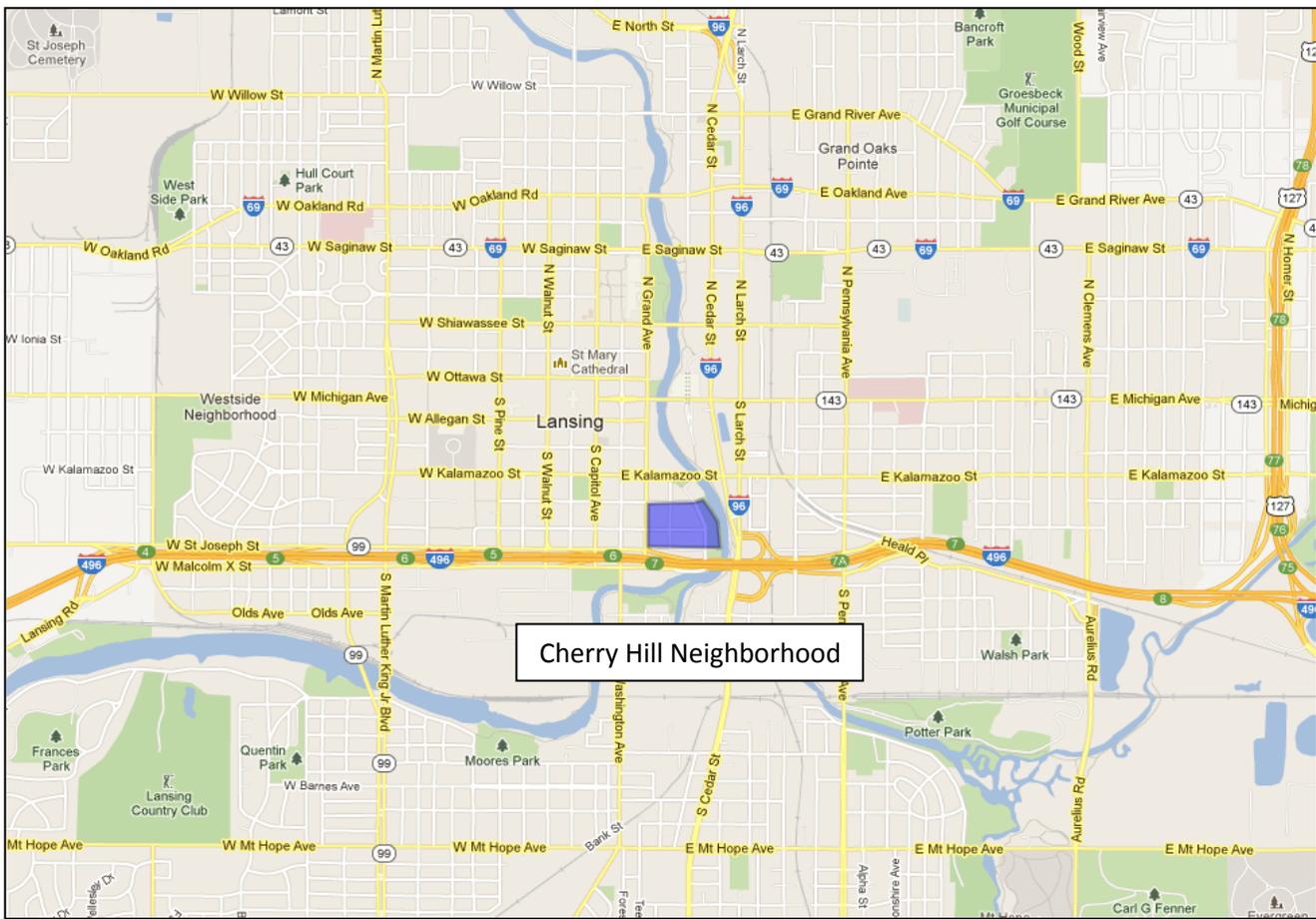
From Points East: Take I-496 to exit 7A Grand Ave/Downtown. Keep right at the fork to continue toward S. Grand Ave. Turn right onto S. Grand Ave. and take the first right onto East Hillsdale Street. Turn right on Cherry St. and then left onto E. St. Joseph St. Continue into Cherry Hill Park parking lot.

From Points West: Take I-496 to exit 6 and merge onto W. Malcolm X St. After 0.9 miles, W. Malcolm X. St becomes River St. Go under the highway and take the first right onto E. St. Joseph St for Cherry Hill Park parking lot.

From CATA Transportation Center: Exit building onto E. Lenawee St. Walk one block east to Cherry Street to begin walking tour.

Suggested Walking Tour:

From the Cherry Hill Park parking lot, walk east one block down E. St. Joseph St. Turn right onto Cherry Street and walk up one block. The Historic District designation begins at 609 Cherry St. Turn left on E. Hillsdale St and walk down to S. Grand Ave. The buildings on the corners are included in the District. Turn around and head back to Cherry Street. Turn left onto Cherry Street and walk one block up to E. Lenawee St. You will see the Cherry Street School Building on your right. Turn right onto E Lenawee St. and then right again onto River St to take you back to the Cherry Hill Park parking lot. The Walk is a 0.7 mile loop.



Historic Maps and Architectural Styles:

Queen Anne Style Architecture originated in Victorian Britain and was named after Queen Anne (1665-1714) who is widely popular and credited with starting an age of English arts and culture during her reign of England, Scotland, and Ireland in the early 1700s. The Queen Anne style has nothing to do with the architectural styles of Queen Anne's time period, but rather grew out of Victorian Style architecture to describe structures with flourishes and more elaborate designs that strike as more feminine and flamboyant. The Queen Anne Style was brought to America during the industrial revolution, and was very popular in the 1880s and 1890s, spawning multiple different variations from Boston, to the Midwest, to San Francisco. All Queen Anne homes still retain some common features. Look for:

- Steep roof
- Complicated, asymmetrical shape
- Front-facing gable
- One-story porch that extends across one or two sides of the house
- Round or square towers
- Wall surfaces textured with decorative shingles, patterned masonry, or half-timbering(exposed wood frames)
- Ornamental spindles and brackets
- Bay windows

(from <http://architecture.about.com/cs/housestyles/a/queenanne.htm>)

Folk Victorian/Folk Queen Anne Style homes are a variant of the Queen Anne style that is original to North America. Popular from 1870-1910, these homes were intended to be more common, representative of the working class, while Victorian/Queen Anne style was seen as slightly more flaunting and grandiose. Folk style homes still have the similar detailing as Queen Anne style, but are more manufactured and symmetrical. Look for:

- Square, symmetrical shape
- Brackets under the eaves
- Porches with spindlework or flat, jigsaw cut trim
- Many have large front porches or gables with side wings

(from <http://architecture.about.com/od/periodsstyles/ig/House-Styles/Folk-Victorian.htm>)

Shingle Style Architecture originated as a rebellion from Victorian and Queen Anne style architecture "femininity". Shingle style structures, instead of coming from Britain, drew from old Cape Cod/New England homes that were sea-beaten and rustic. Shingle style homes have many variations, but are common for their lack of flashiness and elaborate design work, instead opting for more natural colors and uniform shingle or other roughhewn siding. Shingle style homes were somewhat popular in the early 1900s, but also ended up blending with Victorian style to some degree, adopting and incorporating certain features like turrets, patterned shingles, and large Palladian windows.

Look for:

- Continuous wood shingles on siding and roof
- Irregular roof line
- Cross gables
- Eaves on several levels
- Porches
- Asymmetrical floor plan

(from: <http://architecture.about.com/od/housestyles/ss/shingle.htm>)

Italianate Style Architecture originated in England and intended to recreate the style of old Italian renaissance villas. The style ended up taking on its own unique look in the United States becoming the most popular architectural style for new homes in the Northern States from about 1840 to 1885. The style is most notable for its low slope or nearly flat roofs, wide eaves, large brackets, and an overall tall and large scale look. Italianate style architecture has many different variants in the U.S. as the structures could be adapted to many different budgets.

Look for:

- Low-pitched or flat roof
- Balanced, symmetrical rectangular shape
- Tall appearance, with 2, 3, or 4 stories
- Wide, overhanging eaves with brackets and cornices
- Square cupola towers
- Porch topped with balustrade balconies
- Tall, narrow, double-paned windows with hood moldings
- Side bay window
- Heavily molded double doors
- Roman or segmented arches above windows and doors

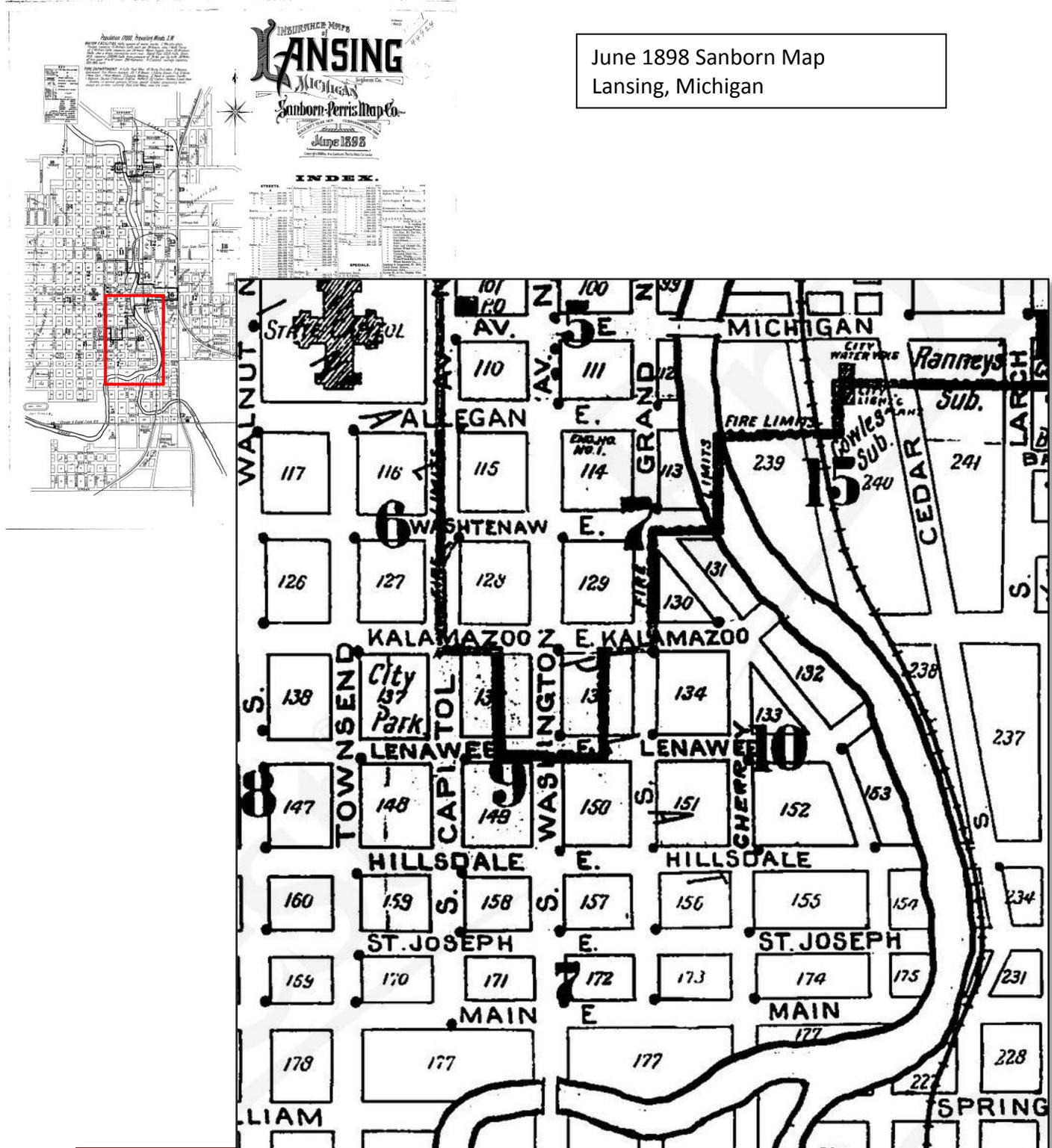
(from: <http://architecture.about.com/od/housestyles/a/Italianate-style.htm>)

Craftsman Style/American Bungalow Architecture draws influences from Britain and India, with some subtle influences from Chinese and Japanese architecture in a uniquely American form. Widely popular from 1905-1930, the style emphasized efficiency. Look for:

- Small/ one and a half stories
- Most of the living spaces on the ground floor
- Low-pitched roof and horizontal shape
- Living room at the center
- Connecting rooms without hallways
- Efficient floor plan
- Built-in cabinets, shelves, and seats

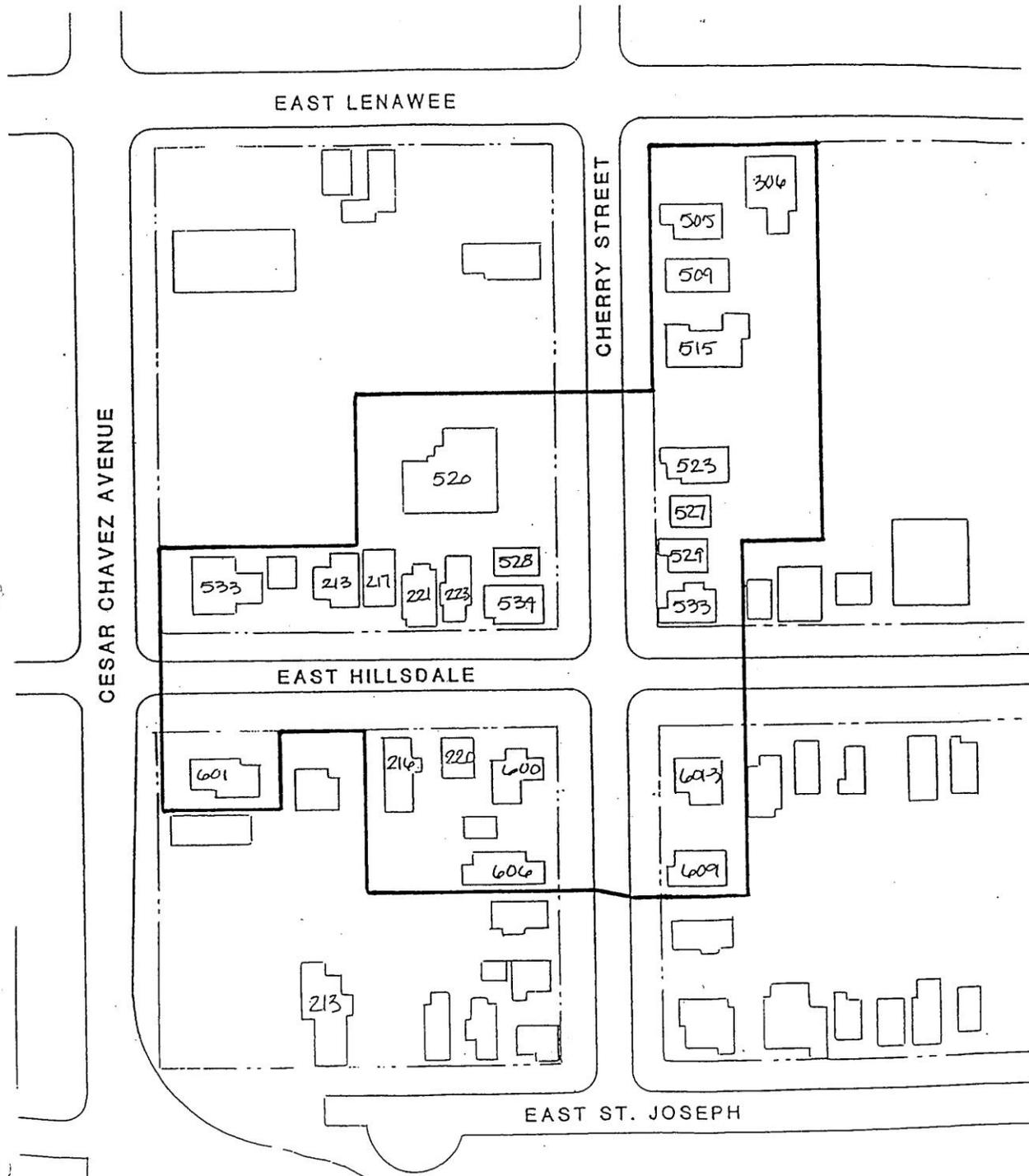
Dutch Colonial Style homes are easily characterized by their gambrel or two sloped roofs, curved eaves, and symmetrical façade, and were popular as a colonial revival style in the early 1900s.

Gable Front and Wing Style, as it sounds, is has a gable front and (L-shaped) side wing, and was a popular Greek Revival variant in the early 1900s.



June 1898 Sanborn Map
Lansing, Michigan

CHERRY HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT



Cherry Hill Historic District Study
Report, 1989

Historic Properties: Listed in the order of the Suggested Walking Tour. Architectural and historic significance information was taken from the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report of 1989.

609 Cherry

Constructed: 1906

Present Owner(s): Penelope Godfrey

Land Use: Residential (Owner and Land Use information may not be current and is subject to change)

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: W. Brogan

1920: Vern V. Moulton: Founder of Auto-Owners Insurance Company, a Fortune 500 Company today. Moulton served as president and chairman from 1916 to 1958.

1930: Walter F. Boos: Proprietor of the Farm Produce Company, a Lansing food distributor



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This Queen Anne style residence has had little alteration. The siding and steps are the major non-original components.

606 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1905

Present Owner(s): Yip H. Tan

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Charles H. Stroud: Veteran and prominent Lansing contractor and architect

1930: Hattie L. Stroud



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This is a shingle style home constructed in 1905. According to the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report, this is one of a few surviving examples in Lansing. Another shingle style structure exists at 601-03 Cherry, across the street. The two show diversity even within the same style.

601-603 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1865

Present Owner(s): Marie D. Walker

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: E. A. Sweazey

1930: Flora Schelling



This shingled colonial revival four family home was constructed in 1865. This house, along with the one across the street at 606, are a few of the last surviving shingle style homes in Lansing.

600 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1887

Present Owner(s): Joyce Bowles Trust

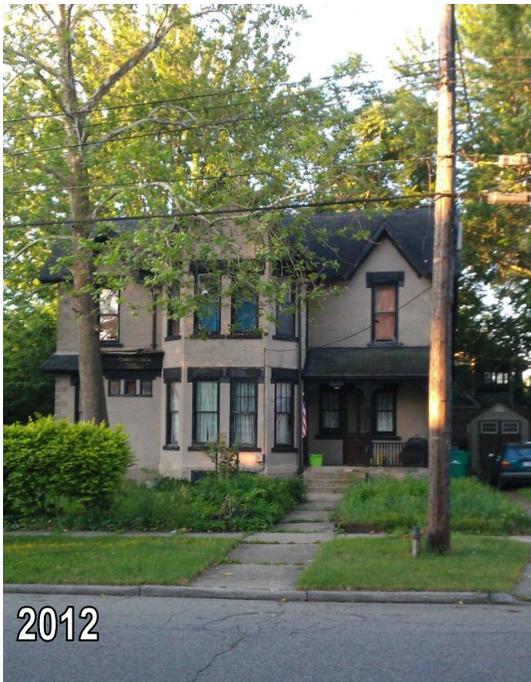
Land Use: Commercial

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: John L. Zuber: Lansing barber

1920: Charles W. McCarrick: Delivery and Transport

1930: McCarrick and Flossie Hagerman



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This is an Italianate structure with rare masonry detailing constructed in 1887

220 East Hillsdale Rd

Constructed: 1909

Present Owner(s): Joyce Bowles Trust

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Sherrill M. Holt: farmer

1930: Percy M. Scott



This Queen Ann style home was built in 1909.

216 East Hillsdale

Constructed: 1888

Present Owner(s): Yip Tan

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Isabell B. Towne

1920: Irma I. Towne, Stella Fuller



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This is a turreted shingle style home constructed in 1888.

601 Grand Ave

Constructed: 1885

Present Owner(s): Michael B. Hutcheson DDS

Land Use: Commercial

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Rudolph Loomis: Circuit Court stenographer, later, president of Capital Auto Company

1930: Sadie N. Shivley



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This Italianate structure was built in 1885, and currently serves as a dental office.

533 Grand Ave

Constructed: 1877

Present Owner(s): Rhead McLean & Glassen and Five Thirty Three, LLC.

Land Use: Commercial/Personal

Previous owners/occupants:

1911: James Seager: see below



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

Constructed in 1877, The State of Michigan has placed the Alvin Whitehead-James Seager house on the State Register of Historic Sites.

“According to the Bureau of History, it is a very well preserved example of Italianate design; one of Lansing's more notable late Victorian brick residences. Historically, it is significant because it was the residence of two prominent Lansing business persons. The Bureau of History has documented that Mr. Alvin Whitehead (1841-1898) had the structure built. Mr. Whitehead, originally from Lake Elizabeth near Pontiac, was a pioneer merchant in Lansing. James Seager, a native New Yorker, moved to Lansing in 1902 after working as a railroad surveyor and copper miner. He established the Seager Engine Works using his copper mining profits. By 1905, Seager was a partner in the Ransom E. Olds Motor Company. Seager Engine Works was the leading manufacturer of automobile engines in Lansing from 1905 to 1910.” –Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report, 1989

217 East Hillsdale

Constructed: 1880

Present Owner(s): Melissa A. Briggs

Land Use: Residential



This Italianate style home was constructed in 1880.

221 East Hillsdale

Constructed: 1914

Present Owner(s): 221 E. Hillsdale Trust

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

Fred H. Potter: Ticket agent at the Grand Trunk Railway Depot



This Craftsman style home was constructed in 1914.

223 East Hillsdale

Constructed: 1909

Present Owner(s): Yip Tan

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Catharine/Alma Swanton: owners of the Swanton Drug Company in Lansing

1920: Walter H. Fast

1930: Glenn B. Sayers: Proprietor of Dawn Donut Company

1941: Marrietta Rice

1954: C.E. Freeland

1968: Chlore Morris



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This is a Dutch Colonial Revival home constructed in 1909.

534 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1910

Present Owner(s): Yip H. Tan

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

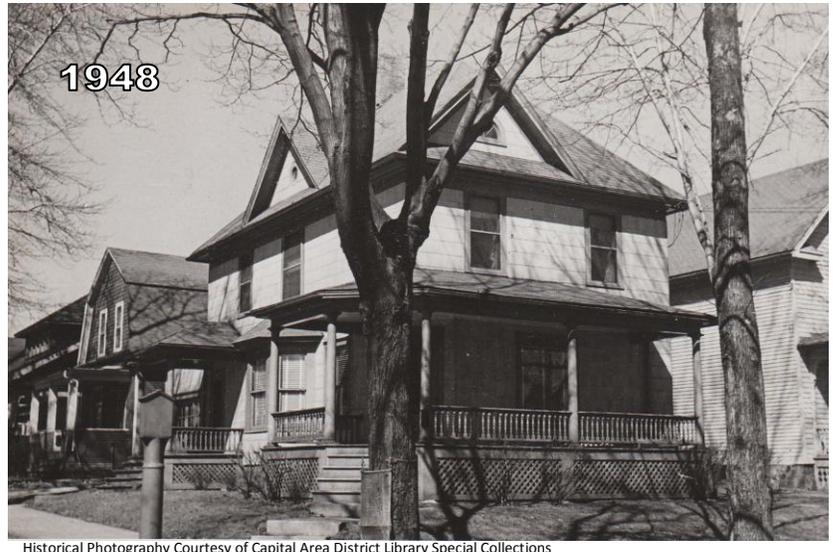
Previous structure: Elijah Peck (see below)

1911: Otto Swanton: Lansing Postal Clerk, family business Swanton Drug Company

1930: W. Leighton

Ben and Pauline Stewart

Charles and Florence Van Keuren



This Queen Ann style one family home was constructed in 1910. According to the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report of 1989, the original home at this site was occupied by Elija Peck. Mr. Peck was a co-founder of the Steam Cracker Bakers and Wholesale Confectioners, a forerunner of the Home Dairy, a bakery/deli cafe that had multiple locations throughout Michigan. The residents of this home were involved in the Home Dairy Co. for the next 50 years.

533 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1890

Present Owner(s): Kenneth Settimo

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: George A. Davies: Manager of the Genesee Fruit Company

1947: Hazel Chalker

Lad Slingerlend - Worked as a Sports Journalist for the Lansing State Journal, was honored as a charter inductee of the University of Michigan Media Hall of Fame in 1971 for his coverage of the school's football team.

Karl and Maurice Davies



This Queen Ann style house was constructed in 1890.

528 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1904

Present Owner(s): Yip Tan

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants:

1911: Maryette Parker

1920: Gillette W. Valentine: mechanic at R.E.O. Company

1969: Roscoe and Agnes Garrison

1970: Gene Metz



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This Folk Queen Ann style one family home was constructed in 1904.

529 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1906

Present Owner(s): Kenneth J. Settimo

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Bert J. Baker

R. Proos

1930-1954: Walter Ludwig

C. Shiveley

1960: Robert Goodsell



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This Folk Queen Ann style two family home was constructed in 1906.

527 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1885

Present Owner(s): Tak Housing & Management

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Thomas A. Shirts

1920: Fred and Myron De Camp: teamsters

1930: Barbara Shirts

1942: Eva Jones

1948: A. R. Mary

Grace Miller



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

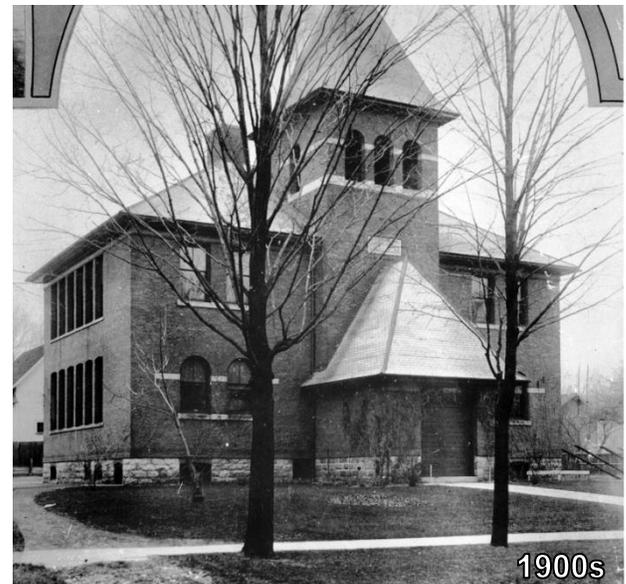
This is an Italianate structure with a characteristic front bay window, constructed as a two family home in 1885.

520 Cherry Street - Old Cherry Street School Building

Constructed: 1894

Present Owner(s): Community Mental Health Authority

Land Use: Exempt



Capital Area District Library Special Collections 190-?

This Italian Villa style building was constructed in 1894 as the Cherry Street School, which replaced an earlier school building that was built on Walnut Street and moved to Cherry Street in 1873. The present building operated as a public school until 1933 when it was closed due to lack of enrollment. It was then used as a Lansing School District warehouse until the early 1970's when it was sold to Elmer Manson, a local architect. Mr. Manson did extensive renovation to the building. It was as occupied as offices previous to the current occupant, the Community Mental Health Authority. According to the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report of 1989, the towered red brick building with limestone sills and arched windows is the last remaining building in Lansing that represents the older style (pre 1900) of school architecture.

Cherry Street School 1894-1933

August 28, 1894 newspaper excerpt (Lansing Republican) *"The [Building] Committee [of the Lansing School Board] was instructed to accept the Cherry Street School as soon as Supervising Architect Bowd certified that it was entirely complete. Mr. Bowd reported to the board that the building was entirely complete, except about \$100 worth of work. The cost of the building is \$6,684.54."*

February 14, 1956 newspaper excerpt (State Journal) *"It also was decided Monday to offer the old Cherry school for sale for \$25,000, with the building and sites committee given authority to select an agent to carry out the sale."*

Images Courtesy of the Capital Area District Library Special Collections

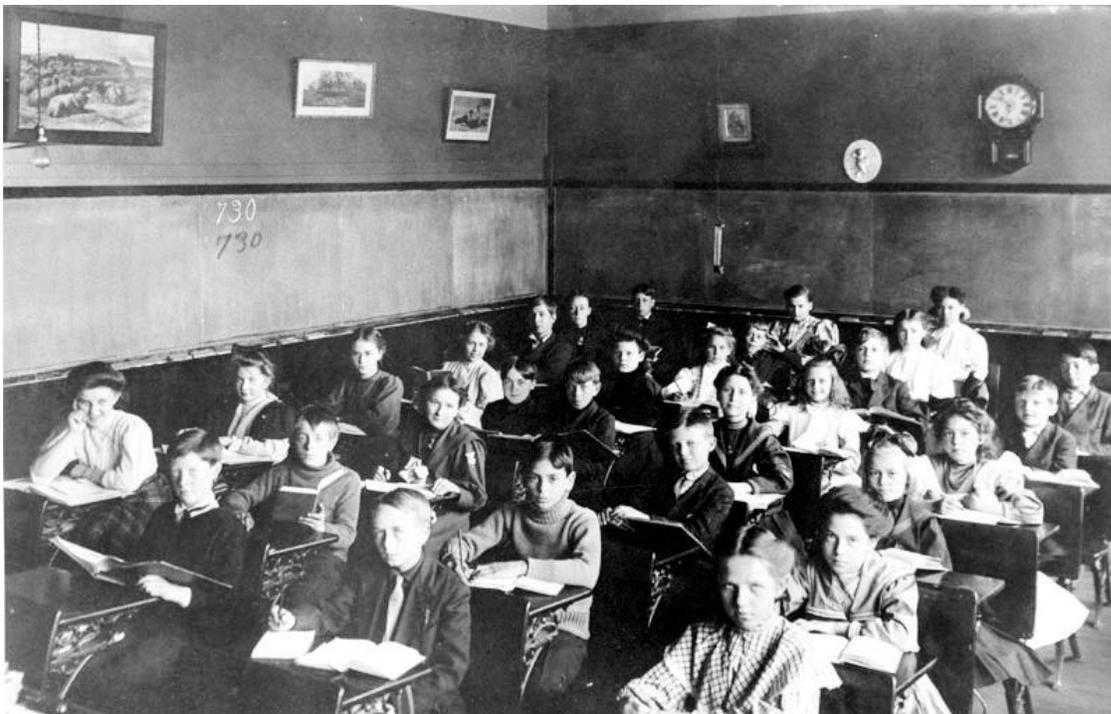
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Cherry Street School Class of Miss Waldo and Miss Cooper, 1905



Cherry Street School, 1907



5th and 6th graders of Miss Walsh, Cherry Street School, 1907

523 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1885

Present Owner(s): Stacey and Jeffrey Baker

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: John E. Baker

1920: William O. Watson: clerk at Mills Dry Goods Company

1930: Stella Watson



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

This Queen Ann style two family home was constructed in 1885.

515 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1896

Present Owner(s): Marie D. Walker, and Jeffrey M. Riley

Land Use: Commercial

Previous Owners/Occupants (partial list):

1911: Martha Davis

1920: Isaac R. VanFleet, Glenn H. Pickett, Cassius C. Walters, Lewis A. Fluno

1930: Martha J. VanFleet, Pickett, Charles E. Forester, Anna Brennan

1968: M. Sturm



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

A Queen Anne style house constructed in 1896

509 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1895

Present Owner(s): Marie D. Walker

Land Use: Residential

Previous Owners/Occupants (Partial list):

1911: W.H. Neuman: chauffeur for the Auto Chemical Company

1920: Charles E. Huellmantel

1930: Huellmantel and Effa B. Gansley

1944: Walter Schneider

1971: Dr. Leonard Aldrich



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

Folk Victorian style home constructed in 1895

505 Cherry Street

Constructed: 1900

Present Owner(s): Thomas A. and Diane M. Kosovec

Land Use: Residential

Previous Owners/Occupants (partial list):

1904: Bert and John Baker

1911: Ernest A. Brazel

1920: Thomas P. Locke, Erle D. Stoner: Olds Factory

1930: Ora V. David, Edwin E. Wentland: Consumers Power

1944: E.F. Pearse

1960: Paul Worthington



Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

Townhouse style brick Italianate structure constructed in 1900

306 East Lenawee Street

Constructed: 1874

Present Owner(s): Timothy Rowden

Land Use: Residential

Previous owners/occupants (partial list):

1911: Seymour G. Bronson

1920: Carrie A. Derhammer

1930: Ira C. Derhammer, H. Milton Goheen, Auto Repair Shop in back

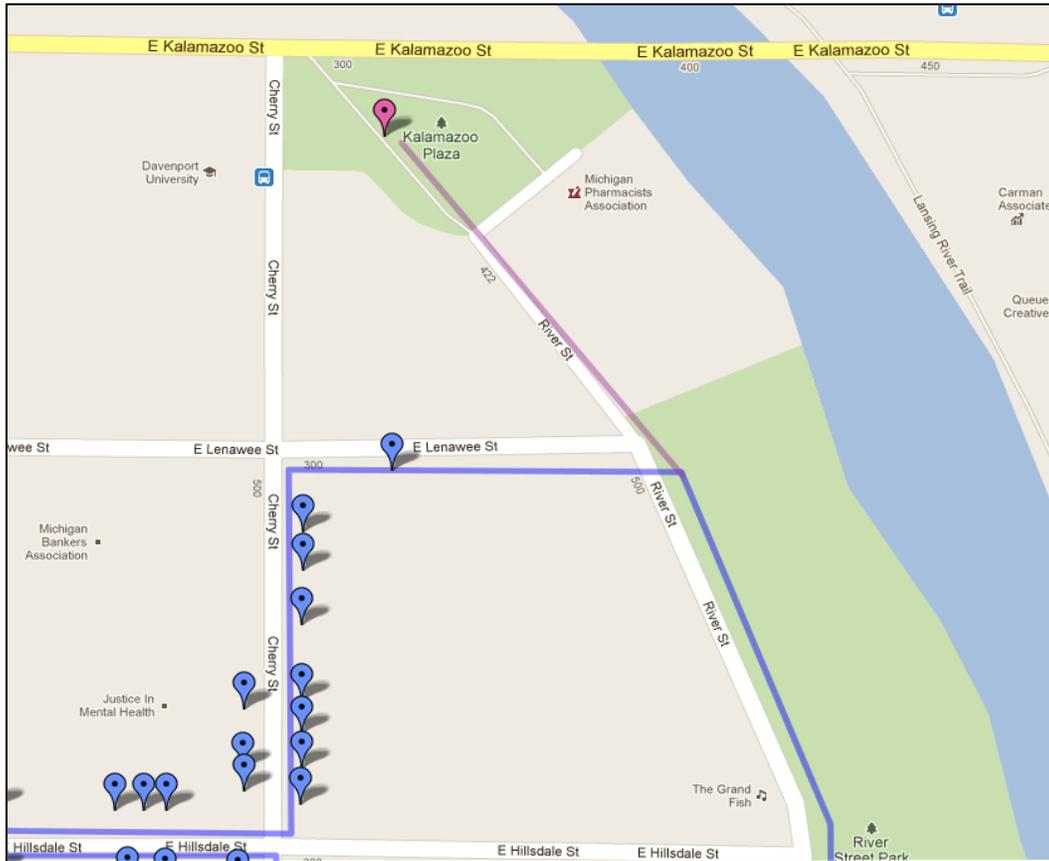


Historical Photography Courtesy of Capital Area District Library Special Collections

A modified gable front and wing type home constructed in 1874. This structure is a renovated home that has been previously used as a bed & breakfast, auto garage, and rented housing.

Walking Tour Bonus:

Before returning to the parking lot, turn left and walk up one block on River Street to Kalamazoo Plaza, a small green space at the end of the street. The plaza offers nice views of the downtown Lansing skyline and also sites a historical marker designating the site where one of Lansing’s most famous residents, Ransom E. Olds, built his first steam car in 1886, marking the beginning of the automotive industry in Michigan.



A project of the City of Lansing Planning Office: Compiled by Evan Gross

Special thank you to Dave Votta at the Capital Area District Library Local History Special Collections for historic photos and research

Images from the Capital Area District Library, Google Maps, the City of Lansing Planning Office, and City of Lansing Assessor’s Office.

Research from Lansing Directory Archives available at the Capital Area District Library, Architecture.about.com, the City of Lansing Assessor, the Cherry Hill Historic District Study Report of 1989, and the Sanborn Maps of 1898 obtained from ProQuest through Michigan State University Libraries.